

December 8, 2008

**Update for the Assaults on Public Safety Employees and Volunteers and
Arizona State Hospital Employees Rulemaking
Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.), Title 9, Chapter 6, Article 8**

A.R.S. § 13-1210, as amended by Laws 2008, Chapter 203, specifies circumstances in which an individual who is an Arizona State Hospital employee or the individual's employer may petition a court to order testing of another individual for HIV or other diseases. The amended A.R.S. § 13-1210(E) requires the Arizona Department of Health Services (Department) to adopt rules that establish the notification procedures to be used after testing is completed pursuant to a court order issued under A.R.S. § 13-1210.

The Department has adopted rules to implement A.R.S. § 13-1210 in 9 A.A.C. 6, Article 8, which currently specifies notification procedures associated with assaults on public safety employees and volunteers. The Department is proposing to amend the rules in 9 A.A.C. 6, Article 8 to add Arizona State Hospital employees to the rules where applicable and has drafted a revision of 9 A.A.C. 6, Article 8.

To keep interested persons informed about the rulemaking, the Department has established a Web Page for the rulemaking. Draft rules are posted on the Department's website for informal public comment.

Stakeholders can communicate their issues and concerns to Ruthann Smejkal, Rules Analyst for the Department, by e-mail at smejkar@azdhs.gov, by phone at 602-364-1230, or by fax at 602-364-1150.